

Iowa Weatherization Assistance Program Fact Sheet

Purpose

The Weatherization Assistance Program is a low-income energy efficiency program. Its purpose is to make the homes of low-income clients more energy efficient, thereby reducing the clients' fuel bills and increasing their comfort. The program also improves the health and safety of low-income homes by identifying and mitigating such health and safety problems as carbon monoxide, combustion appliance back-drafting, and high indoor moisture levels. States must administer the program in accordance with DOE rules and regulations.

Eligibility

A household is eligible for assistance under the Iowa Weatherization Program if the household is receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Family Investment Program (FIP) Assistance, regardless of income or, the household's annual income is at, or below 150% of the poverty level, as established by the Office of Management and Budget.

FUNDING Fiscal Year 2005

Dept. of Energy.....	\$5,011,292
LIHEAP-WX	\$5,184,900
Utilities	\$4,814,742
TOTAL	\$15,010,934

Characteristics of Households Served

Elderly:	36%
Disabled:	43%
Young Child:	20%
Renters:	9%

ENERGY SAVINGS

Annual savings per home: \$389 (Based on homes weatherized in Contract year 2004.)
The energy efficiency measures installed in homes in 2004 will result in a savings of \$57.1 million dollars over 20 years.

The savings-to-investment ratio is 1.8. For every \$1.00 spent on the homes, \$1.80 is saved in energy costs over the life of the measures.

Number of Homes Weatherized

Fiscal Year 2004 - 2,064
Fiscal Years 1980 thru 2004 - 116,858

Unmet Need

Estimated to be 171,100 homes (Per analysis done by Fisher, Sheehan & Colton, 1996 & adjusted for homes completed since the report.)

Health & Safety Measures

- Repair or replace unsafe furnaces (49% of homes) and water heaters (21% of homes)
- Install carbon monoxide or smoke detectors in certain situations (CO alarms installed in 37% of homes)
- Inspect all combustion appliances, provide information on risks of lead-based paint, and mitigate moisture problems

Other Non-Energy Program Benefits

Although difficult to quantify with precision, the non-energy benefits of the Weatherization Program have been estimated to average \$3,136 per home. These non-energy benefits include improved client health and safety conditions, reduced air pollution (reduces carbon dioxide emissions by an average of one ton per home), and retention of affordable low-income housing.

For further information contact: Jim Newton, Weatherization Bureau, Division of Community Action Agencies, Iowa Department of Human Rights, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 - Phone: (515) 242-6314 - e-mail Jim.Newton@iowa.gov